

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 SAJ-01 CIEP-01 NEA-09 IO-10

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SS-15 USIA-06 /086 W

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R 071750Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7045

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 00217

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UK, UR

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WILSON'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

1. JANUARY 7 BACK-PAGE TELEGRAPH ARTICLE BY JOHN MILLER STATES PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN SECRETARY EXPECTED TO FLY TO MOSCOW ON FEBRUARY 11.

2. EMBASSY OFFICER CONTACTED FCO SOVIET DEPARTMENT HEAD, JULIAN BULLARD, WHO STATED ARTICLE IS EDUCATED GUESS. IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, BULLARD SAID THAT TENTATIVE AGREEMENT REACHED WITH THE SOVIETS FOR THE DATES FEBRUARY 13-17, BUT THE DATES WERE NOT CONFIRMED BY THE SOVIETS, AND BRITISH COULD NOT CONFIRM UNTIL MR. CALLAGHAN'S RETURN FROM AFRICA.

3. BULLARD SAID THAT THE SOVIETS HAD NOT MENTIONED BREZHNEV'S HEALTH AS A REASON FOR DELAY IN CONFIRMING DATES, AND IN FACT, HAD POINTEDLY AVOIDED IT. FCO OPINION IS BREZHNEV WAS ILL AT TIME OF EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT, BUT "UNSATISFACTORY FEATURES IN SOVIET/EGYPTIAN

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STER'S VISIT, BUT "UNSATISFACTORY FEATURES IN SOVIET/EGYPTIAN

TIAN RELATIONS HAD BEEN THE MAJOR FACTOR IN POSTPONING
THE BREZHNEV VISIT."

SPIERS

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